

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING JOSEPH J.
TARANTINO

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 21, 2003

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker. I rise today to recognize Joseph J. Tarantino, recipient of this year's Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce Outstanding Citizen of the Year Award, for his numerous years of service to our community.

Joseph J. Tarantino is the President of Continental Realty Company Incorporated, based in East Norriton, Pennsylvania. He oversees fifty employees and agents and all seven of Continental Realty's divisions, which include professional services in the areas of residential and commercial real estate, insurance, relocation, appraisals, new construction, property management and advertising & marketing.

In addition to his official capacity at Continental Realty, Mr. Tarantino has served as Chairman of the Pennsylvania State Real Estate Commission, President of the Board of Directors of the Montgomery County Board of Realtors, and Federal District Coordinator of the National Association of Realtors. He has also maintained several community affiliations such as Chairman of the Borough of Bridgeport Revitalization Committee, President of the National Italian Political Action Committee, Chairman of the Central Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce, Director of the American Heart Association and Director of the Pathway Schools.

Joseph Tarantino has been recognized on several occasions by his business peers as well as those in the community. He has been a recipient of the Realtors Active in Politics Award, the Central Montgomery County Board of Realtors Realtor of the Year Award and the Americans of Italian Heritage of Montgomery County Outstanding Citizen Award. All of the honors and awards he has received, as well as the positions of leadership Mr. Tarantino has held are a true testament to the hard work and dedication he has shown toward his profession and community. Joseph J. Tarantino is an exemplary citizen for which Montgomery County can be truly proud and I can not think of a more deserving individual to receive the Chamber of Commerce's Outstanding Citizen of the Year Award.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues join me today in recognizing and honoring Joseph J. Tarantino for all that he has done over the years to make Montgomery County, Pennsylvania a better place to live.

TRIBUTE TO JOHNNY J. BUTLER,
ESQUIRE

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 21, 2003

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the accomplishments of Mr. Johnny J. Butler, Esquire, recipient of the 2003 Laborers' Local Union 332 Outstanding Community Leader Award. It is a privilege to recognize a person whose commitment to community has enriched the lives of countless individuals.

Mr. Butler is an attorney with the law firm of Booth & Tucker, LLP of Philadelphia where he focuses on government relations, management consulting, and employment law. He is active in the many aspects of the community including the Prince Hall Masons & Shriners and the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. Mr. Butler sits on the Board of Trustees for both the Mother Bethel Foundation and the Drexel University College of Medicine, and is cochairman of the Scotland School for Veterans Children capital campaign.

In the past, Mr. Butler was Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry. Under his leadership, there was a statewide enhancement of workforce development programs and policies, a reform of the state's workers compensation system, and establishment of PennSafe, a workforce safety initiative. Mr. Butler also served as the acting General Counsel of the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Assistant Counsel with the NAACP Legal Defense Fund, and has taught both law and management courses at Howard University and Temple University, respectively.

Mr. Speaker, Johnny Butler is a model citizen. I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending Mr. Butler for his lifetime of service and dedication to labor and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

A TRIBUTE TO PATRICIA A. LEE

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 21, 2003

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Patricia A. Lee for her achievement in expanding a local business, which has served the Brooklyn community for several years.

Patricia A. Lee was born in Magnolia, NC. She attended E.E. Smith High School in Keanansville, NC, and upon graduation, she continued her education at Norfolk State University. In 1970, she earned a B.S. degree in business administration.

Soon afterward, Patricia was employed by Allstate Insurance Company as an injury claims adjuster. After working for Allstate for two years, she joined her family's business,

the North Carolina Country Store, in Brooklyn, NY, as vice president of Marketing and Business Operations. Her hard work paid dividends, and in 1988, she expanded the business by opening a restaurant, The Carolina Country Kitchen, which has been in Brooklyn for 13 years. The restaurant is now located in the country store.

Patricia is an active member of New Jerusalem Baptist Church in Jamaica, NY. She has also been involved in numerous community efforts including her membership on the 73rd Community Council and the Bedford Stuyvesant Community Planning Board. Additionally, she is a contributor to several block associations and is very active in her community and neighborhood schools.

Mr. Speaker, Patricia A. Lee has made significant contributions to her community through her entrepreneurial and volunteer activities. As such, she is more than worthy of receiving our recognition. I hope that all of my colleagues will join me in honoring this truly remarkable individual.

HONORING SUFFOLK COUNTY VOL-
UNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIA-
TION 2003 FIREFIGHTERS OF THE
YEAR

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 21, 2003

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Suffolk County Volunteer Firemen's Association 2003 "Firefighters of the Year."

This year, the Association is honoring 1st Asst. Chief James M. Cummings, Ex-Captain Robert Souhrada and Firefighter Daniel Boucher of the Bay Shore, NY Fire Department. The testimonial of Chief Michael K. Cummings demonstrates the commitment of these three brave men.

On March 19, 2002, at 18:31 hours the Bay Shore Fire Department was alerted and toned out for a structure fire (signal 13) at 103 Second Avenue. Immediately after going on the air, the Bay Shore base was informed by Suffolk County FireCom there was a child hanging out a window. At 18:33 hours, Engine 3-1-2 and 1st Asst. Chief James Cummings, 3-1-31, went (signal 2) enroute to the scene.

While the crew of 3-1-2 began preparing to enter the building with an attack line, 1st Asst. Chief (3-1-31) James Cummings arrived at the scene and realizing due to heavy smoke and intense flame that time was running out for the trapped victims elected to effect a rescue through the second story front window. As he entered the room, directly in front of the window was 3-year-old John Thomas. Chief Cummings immediately pulled him to his arms and proceeded to the window.

As Chief Cummings was affecting the first rescue, Firefighter Dan Boucher had completed his ascent of the stairs. Firefighter Boucher, unaware that anyone else was in the room, entered the front room. Both Cummings and Boucher arrived at the second

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